

REMARKS

Claims 17-26 are pending. Claims 1-16 and 27 are cancelled. Claims 17-26 are allowed.

Claims 9-13 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,439,760 issued to Howard. Applicants cancelled claims 9-13 and 15-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious based upon U.S. Patent No. 6,699,265 issued to O'Phelan. Claim 27 is cancelled. Given the present disposition of the claims, withdrawal of the instant rejections and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

February 27, 2007
Date

/Carol F. Barry/
Carol F. Barry
Reg. No. 41,600
(763) 514-4673
Customer No. 27581